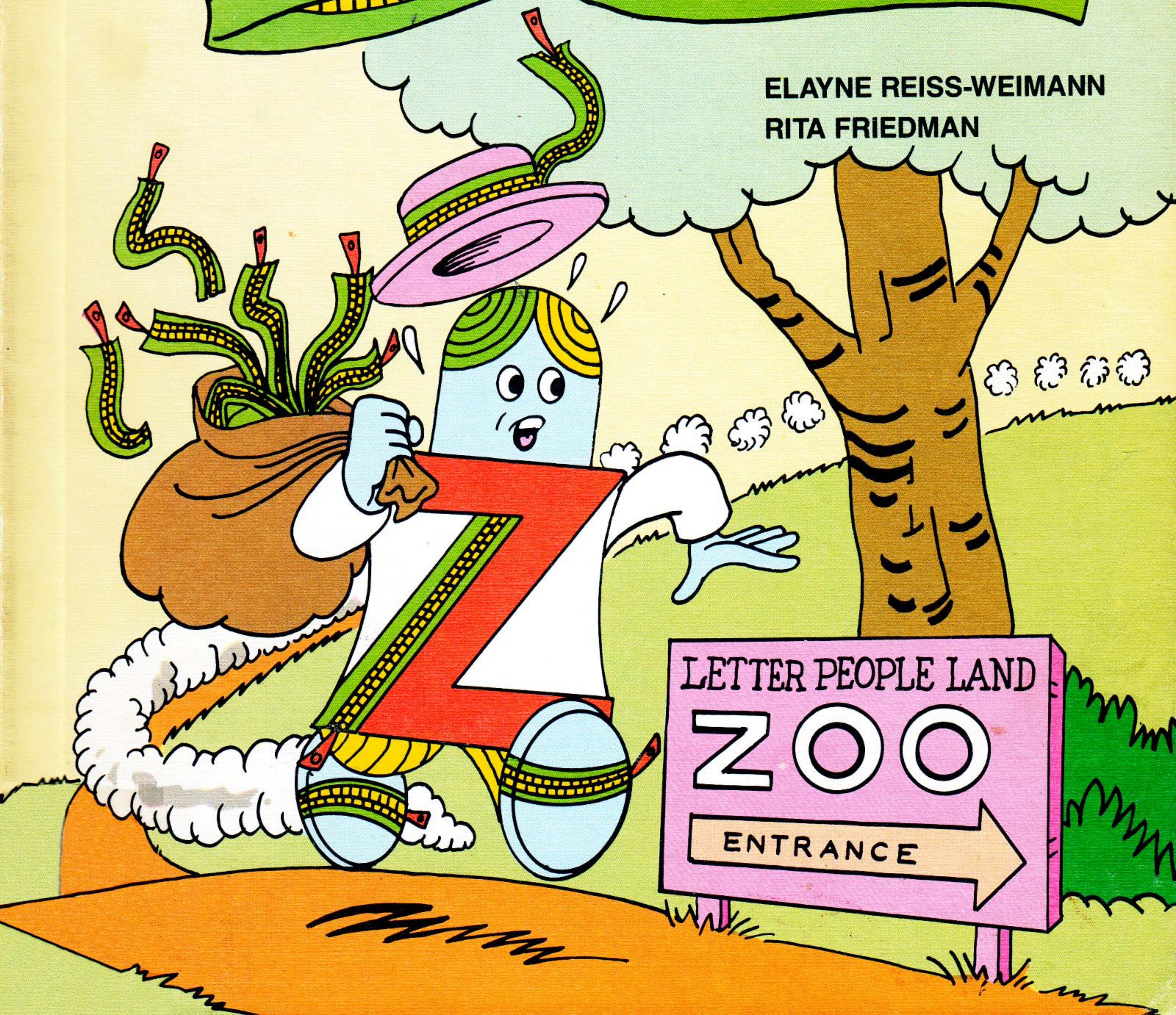


ZIPPING ZIPPERS SAVE the ZOO

ELAYNE REISS-WEIMANN
RITA FRIEDMAN





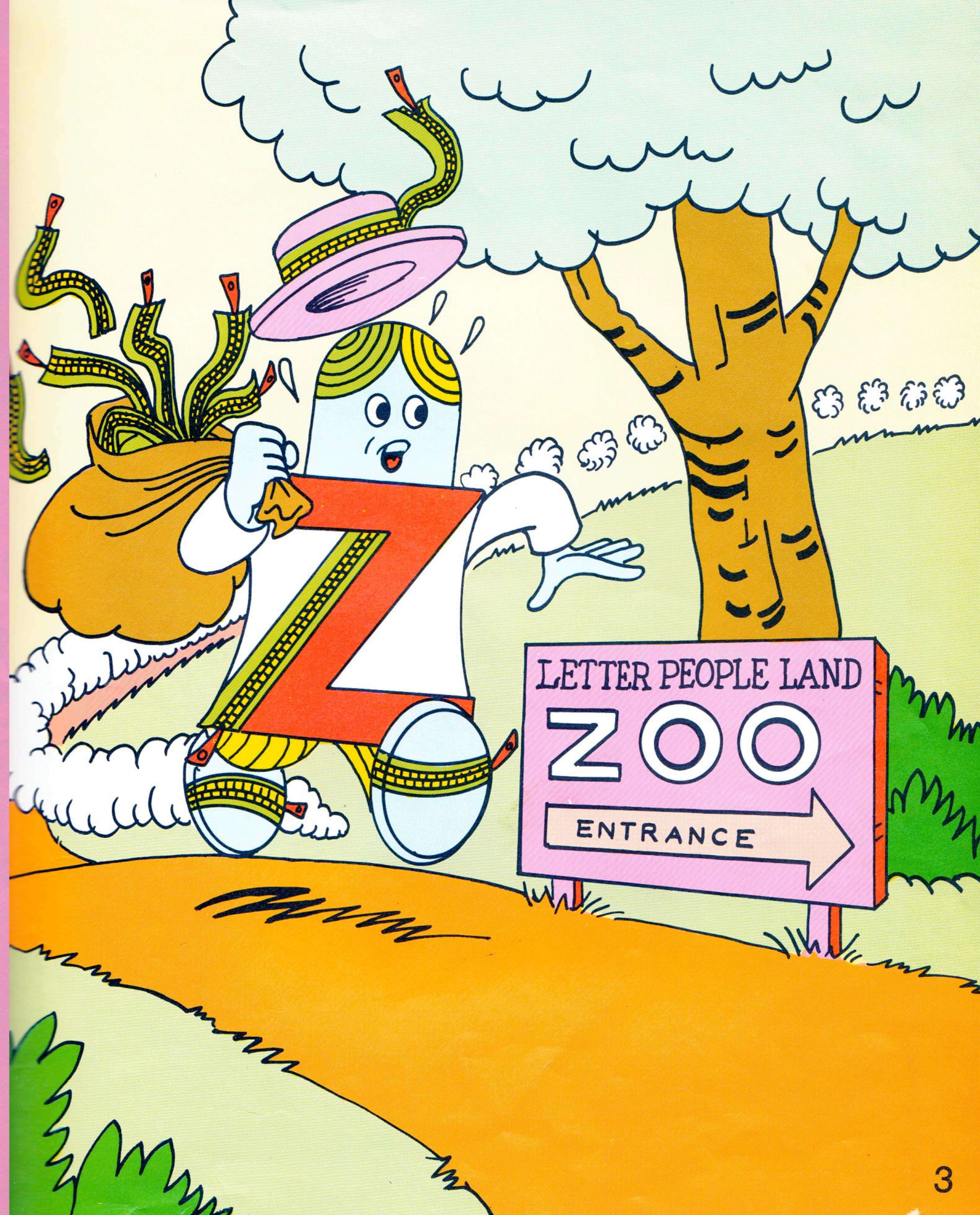
Everyone in Letter People Land enjoys the animals at the zoo. The animals always perform for them. However, one day all the animals decide to leave the zoo.

The zookeeper telephones Mr. Z.

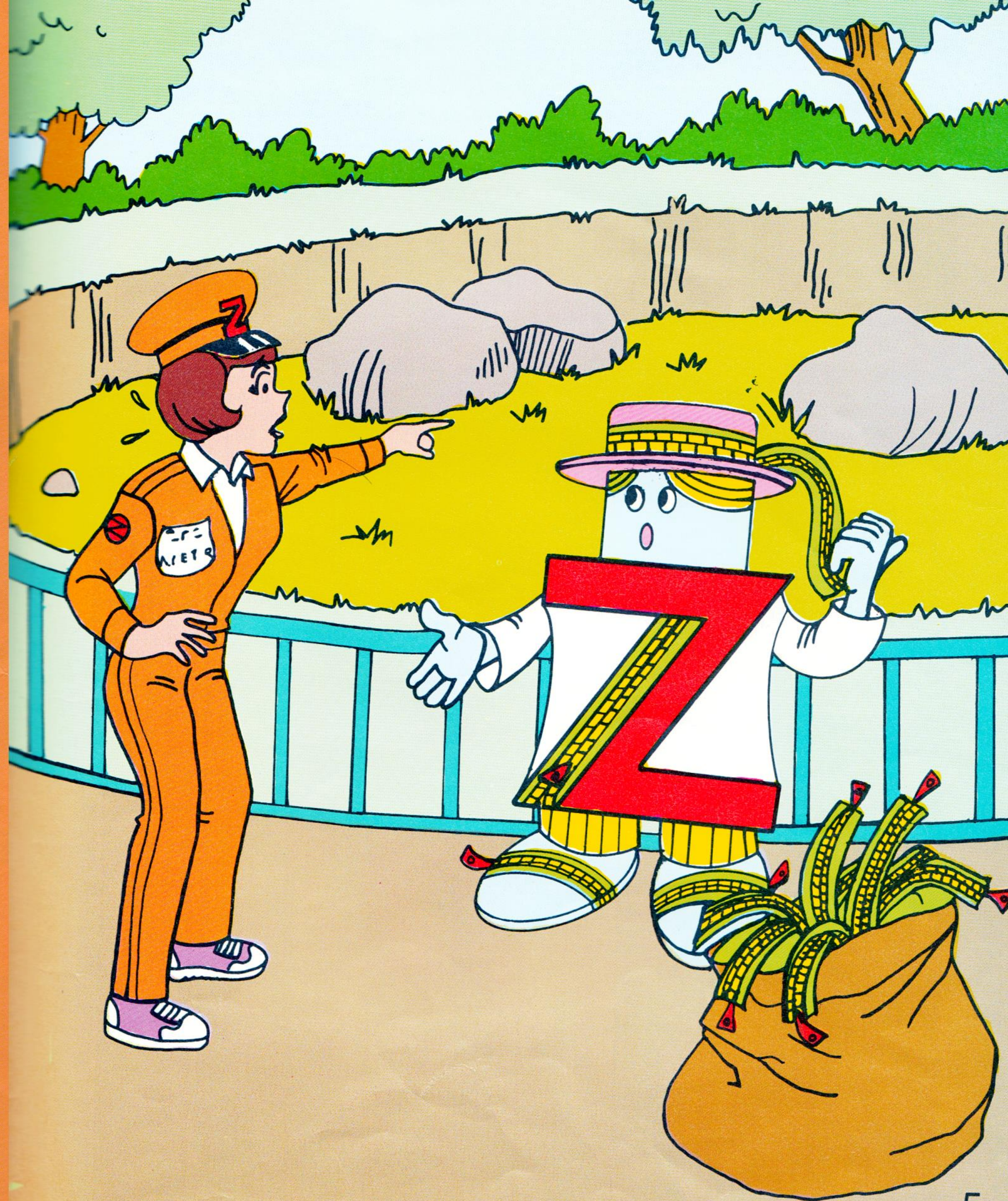
"Mr. Z," she says.

"Please zip your zipping zippers and zoom to the zoo.
I need your help."

Mr. Z zips his zippers, packs a large sack, and
rushes to the zoo.



The zookeeper is waiting for Mr. Z.
“What’s wrong?” asks Mr. Z.
“Look all around and you will know,” she answers.
“There are no animals,” says Mr. Z.
“Where are they?”



"The animals have decided to leave the zoo,"
says the zookeeper.

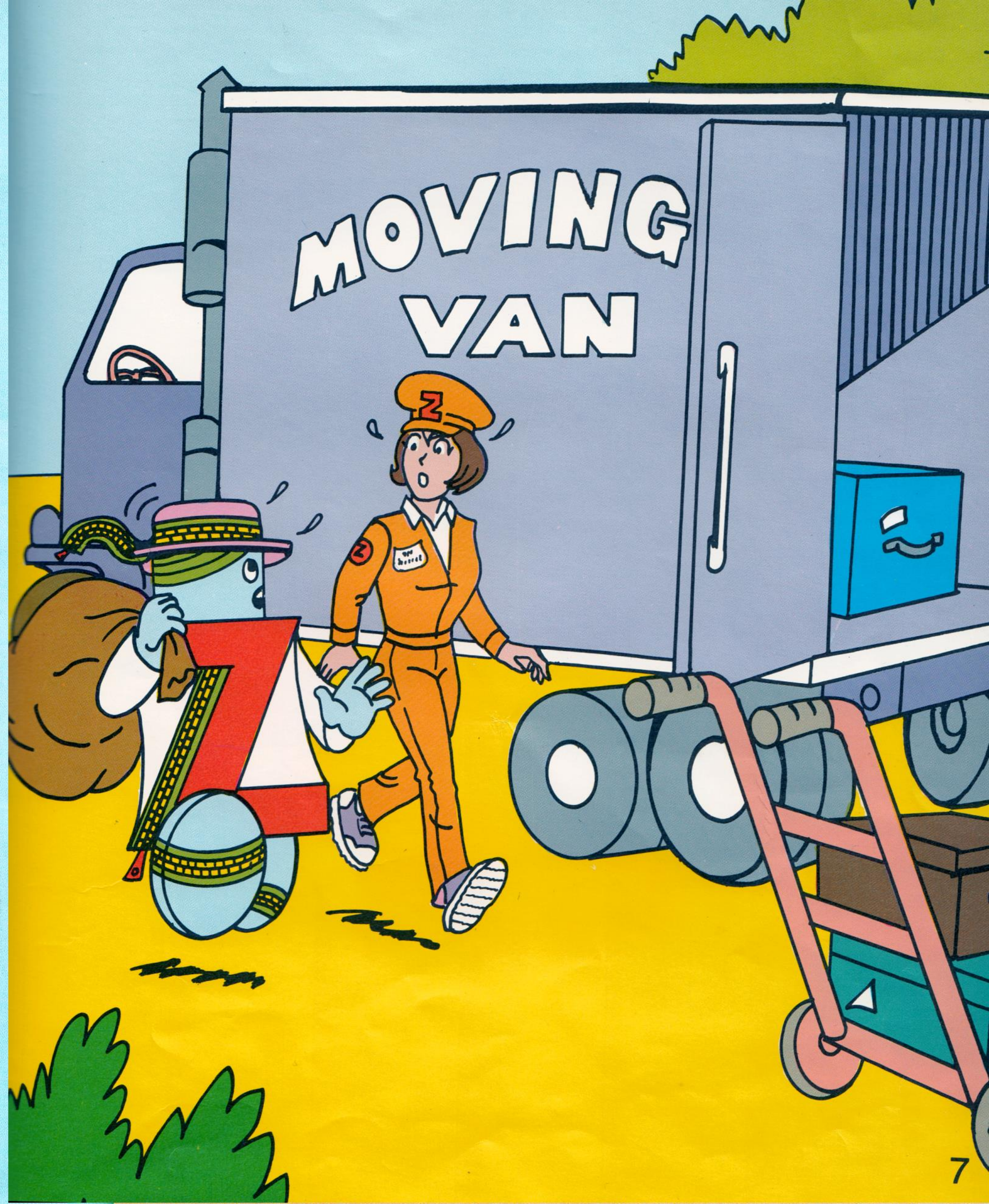
"I have begged them to stay.

They won't listen to me.

You are their friend, Mr. Z.

Please talk with them.

Letter People Land needs a zoo."



Mr. Z finds his animal friends.
They are packing their belongings.
“Where are you going?
Why are you leaving?” asks Mr. Z.
“We cannot live here,” says Timothy Tiger.
“We have too many problems.”
“Please,” says Mr. Z, “let’s talk.
Problems can be solved if you talk about them.”



"No one wants to hear our problems," say the animals.

"I do," says Mr. Z.

"I want to hear each one.

Then, I will be able to help you."

"I'll tell you mine," says Timothy Tiger.

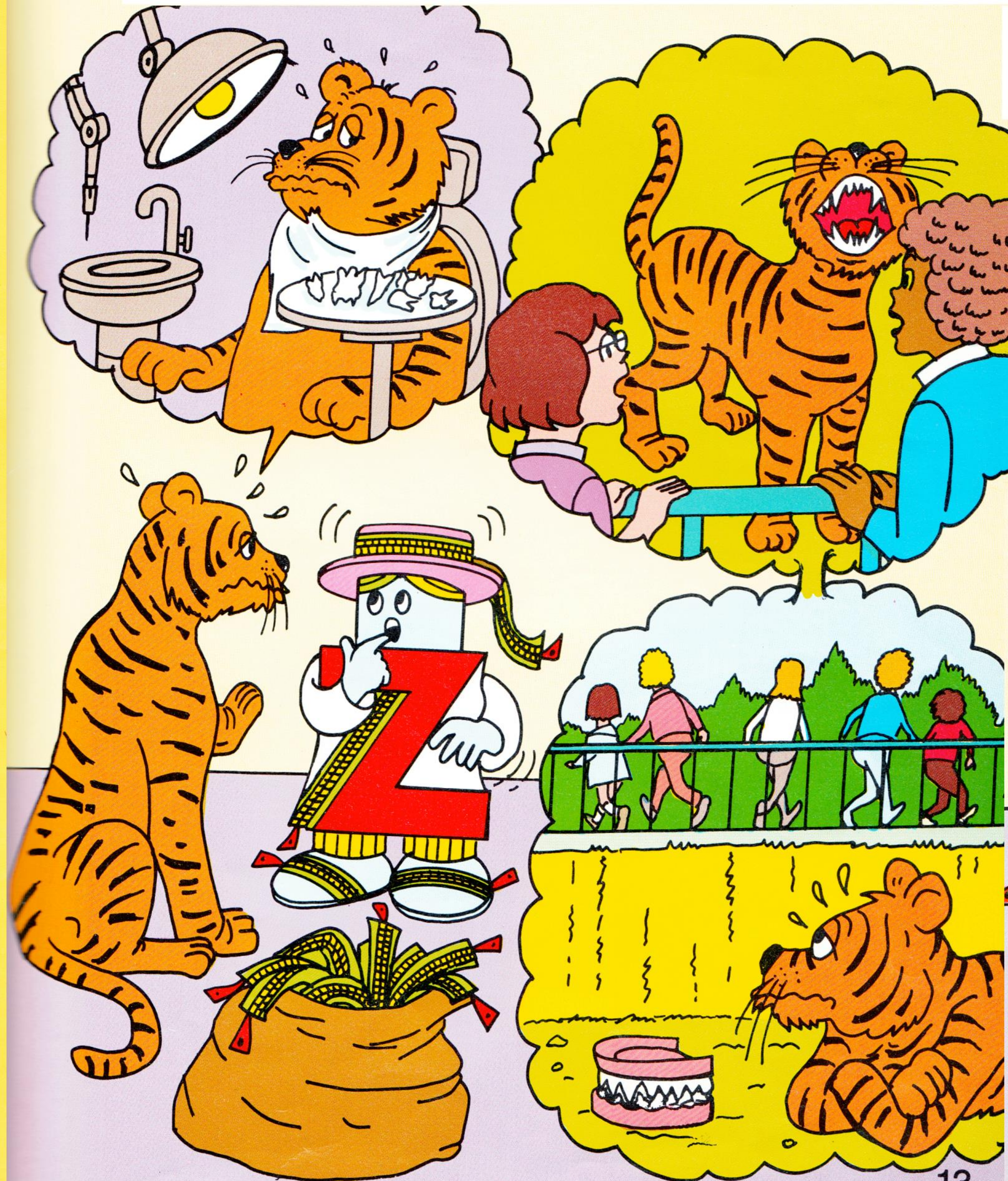
"I'm a tiger who won't growl.

People look at me and say, 'Why does the zoo keep a tiger who won't growl?'

It's very embarrassing."



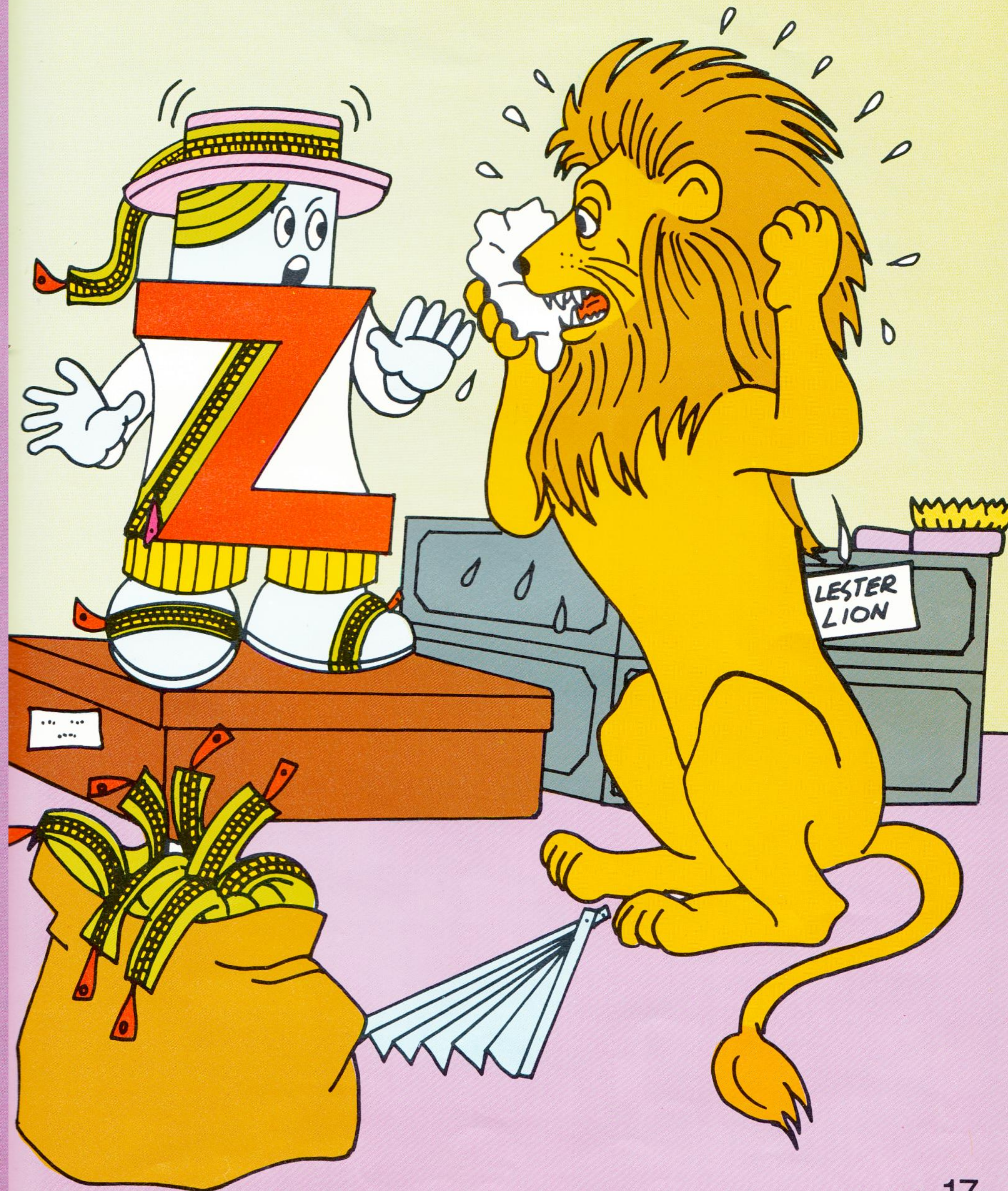
"Why won't you growl?" asks Mr. Z.
"I have no teeth," says Timothy.
"The dentist had to pull all of mine.
He made false teeth for me.
They look fine, but they don't feel fine.
They hurt.
I only use them when people visit the zoo.
Then I have to take them out."



“That’s not a problem,” says Mr. Z.
“No one cares if you have false teeth.”
“You don’t understand,” says Timothy.
“It takes too long to put my teeth in and too long to
take them out.
So, I never use them anymore.
I won’t growl without teeth.
I am leaving the zoo.”



“It’s my turn to talk,” says Lester Lion.
“Mr. Z, look at my fur mane.”
“It is very beautiful,” says Mr. Z.
“It is heavy and makes me hot,” says Lester.
“I get cranky wearing heavy fur all day long.
A cranky lion does not belong at the zoo.
I am leaving.”



“False teeth and a fur mane are problems,” says Katy Kangaroo.

“But wait until you hear mine.”

“I am listening,” says Mr. Z.

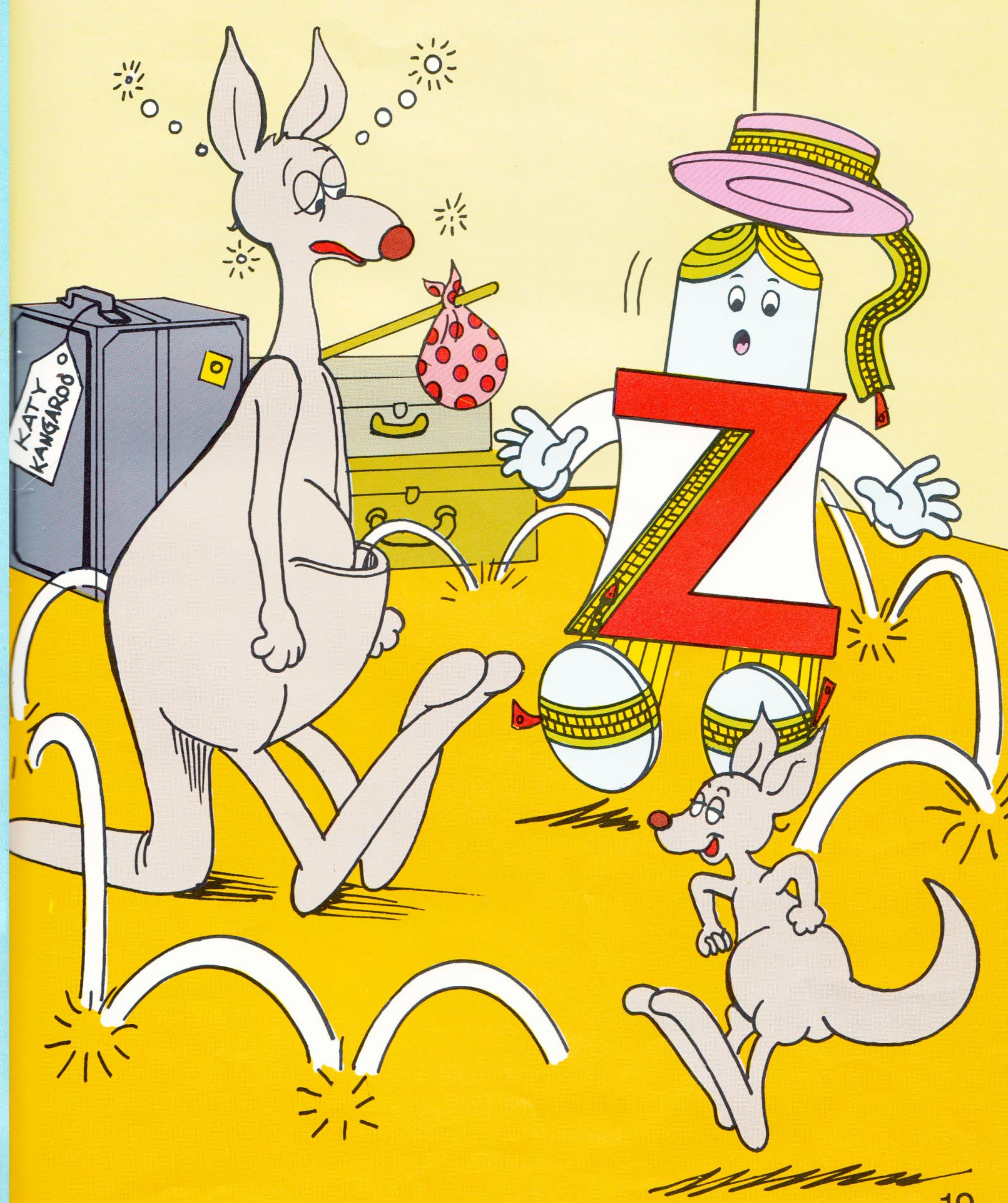
“Well,” says Katy, “my baby kangaroo jumps in and out of my pouch all day.

I spend all my time chasing her.

I am always tired.

A tired kangaroo does not belong at the zoo.

I am leaving.”



All the animals tell Mr. Z. their problems.
Mr. Z listens carefully to each one.
“I can solve all your problems,” he says.
“Please solve mine,” says Timothy.
Mr. Z looks in his sack.
He pulls out two zipping zippers.
“This will solve your problem,” says Mr. Z.
“Zipping zippers are good for you Mr. Z,” says Timothy.
“But they can’t help me.”



“My zipping zippers can do all zipping work,” says Mr. Z.

“They will zip your teeth in.

They will zip your teeth out.

Your teeth will be easy to use.

Zippering hardly takes any time at all.”

“I like it,” says Timothy.

“I will stay at the zoo.”



“Now let’s solve your problem, Lester Lion,” says Mr. Z.

“I have zipping zippers for you, too.”

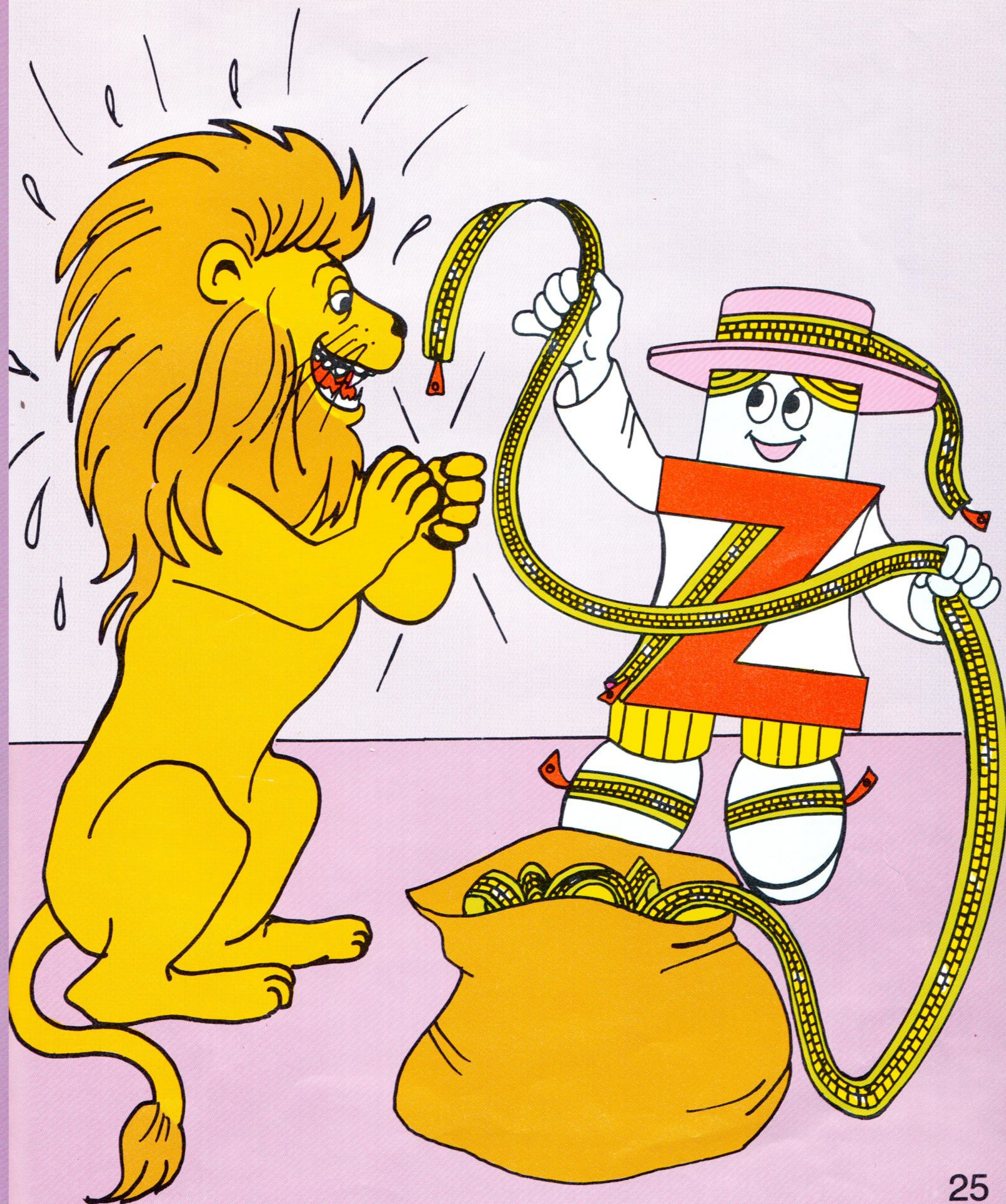
“Zipping zippers are a great idea for Timothy,” says Lester.

“But zippers are too small for me. My fur mane is long and heavy.”

“Not too long or too heavy for these,” says Mr. Z, as he pulls and pulls and pulls a zipper from his sack.

“Zowie!” says Lester.

“I’ve never seen such a gigantic zipping zipper.”



Lester Lion is so excited, he takes the zipping zipper and zooms from the room.

Then he zooms back into the room.

The animals cannot believe what they see.

There is Lester without his fur mane.

"Where is your fur mane?" they ask.

"I zipped it off," says Lester

"In a minute, I will zip it on.

I like it.

I will stay at the zoo."



“Mr. Z, you probably have a zipping zipper for my pouch,” says Katy Kangaroo.

“I’m afraid a zipper won’t help me.

My baby kangaroo can zip zippers by herself.”

“Your baby kangaroo will not zip this zipper,” smiles Mr. Z.

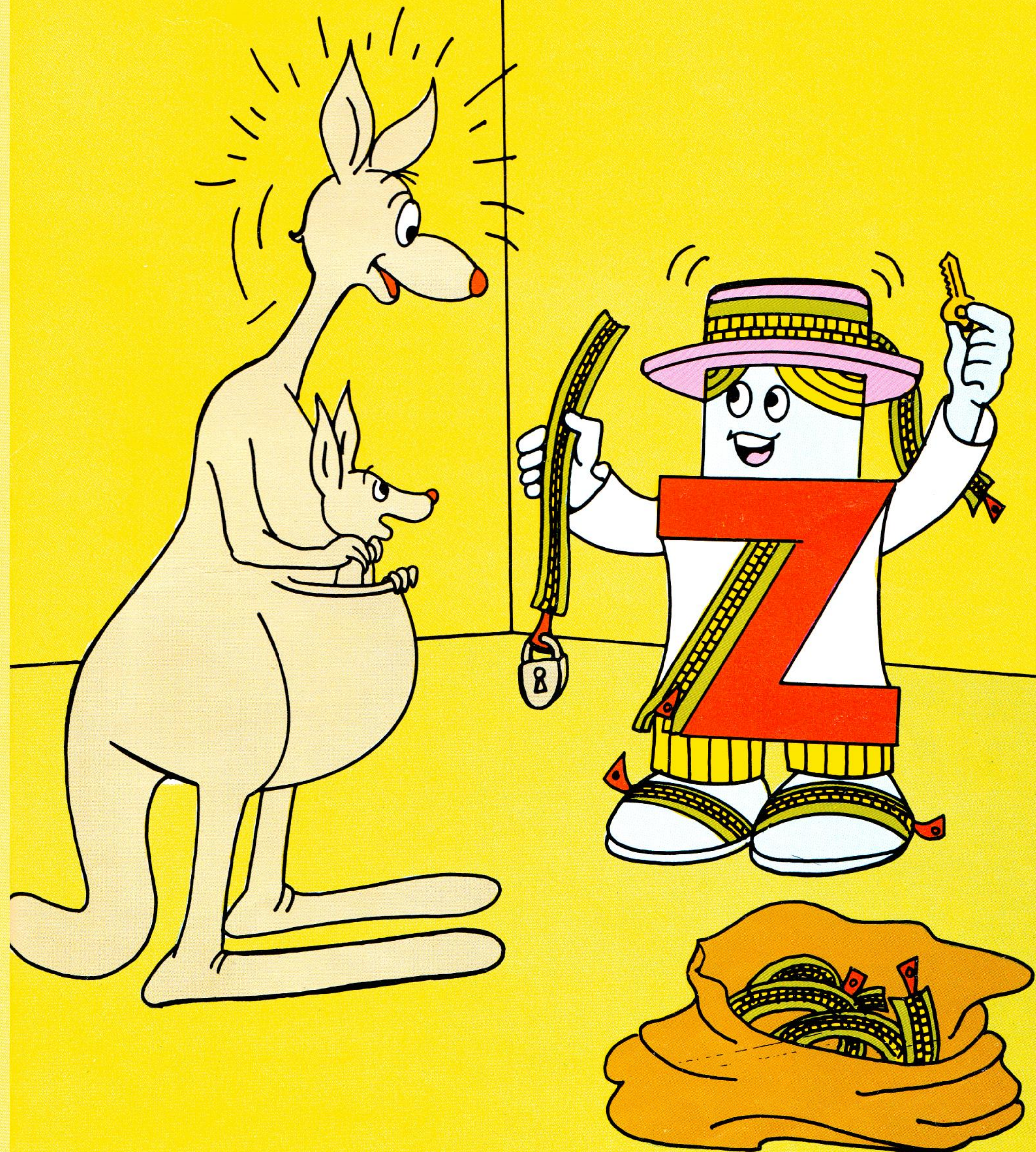
“Only you will have the key.”

“A zipper with a lock,” says Katy.

“What a wonderful idea.”

“Zipping zippers can help each of you,” says Mr. Z.

“Please don’t leave the zoo.”





The animals do not leave the zoo.

However, one day Zelda Zebra does not want to wear her stripes.

Mr. Z zoomes to the zoo with zipping zippers.

Zipping zippers always solve problems at the zoo.